

6381-08-IM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : HUBERT BARTH, ET AL.

EXAMINER : SAEED, KAMAL A.

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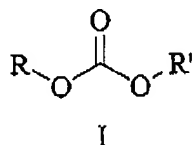
FOR : METHOD FOR PRODUCING SYMMETRICAL AND ASYMMETRICAL
CARBONATESAMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER ALLOWANCE
FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.312(a)Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

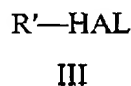
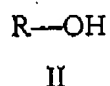
In response to a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due and an Examiner's Amendment dated November 5, 2003, Applicants request entry of an amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.312(a) in a listing of claims that begin on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

Please replace all claims in the application with the following:

1. (Currently amended) Process for the preparation of symmetrical and asymmetrical carbonates of the general formula I



in which R and R' are the same or different and signify a straight-chained or branched alkyl group with 1 to 10 C-atoms, a benzyl group unsubstituted or substituted with up to three C₁-C₄-alkyl groups, C₁-C₄-alkoxy groups, halogen atoms, with a cyano group, a nitro group, a trifluoromethyl group or an alkoxycarbonyl group with up to 4 C-atoms, characterized in that one converts alcohols of the general formula II and alkyl or aryl halides of the general formula III



in which R and R' possess the above-given meaning and HAL stands for chlorine, bromine or iodine, by reaction of with carbon dioxide and caesium carbonate in a dipolar aprotic solvent into organic carbonates of the general formula I.

2. (Original) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the solvent is dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, dimethylacetamide or N-methylpyrrolidone.
3. (Original) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the reaction is carried out at room temperature.
4. (Original) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the carbon dioxide is passed gaseous into the reaction batch.

5. (Original) Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the alcohol (II) is placed with a 2 to 3 fold excess of caesium carbonate in a polar aprotic solvent, carbon dioxide gas is passed in for several hours and subsequently the halide (III) is added in equimolar amount and the passing of carbon dioxide gas is continued for some time.
6. (Canceled)